DECLARATION FOR UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION

AS A BELOW-NAMED INVENTOR, WE HEREBY DECLARE THAT:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

We believe we are the original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

ÖPTICAL HEAD, RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND SOLID IMMERSION LENS

the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following box is checked:

was filed on	as United States Application Serial No. or PC7
International Application No.	and was amended on (if
applicable).	

WE HEREBY STATE THAT WE HAVE REVIEWED AND UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS OF THE ABOVE-IDENTIFIED SPECIFICATION, INCLUDING THE CLAIMS, AS AMENDED BY ANY AMENDMENT REFERRED TO ABOVE.

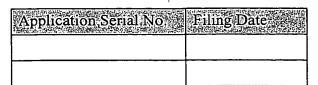
WE acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

WE hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or § 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Application No.	Country	Date of Filing (day/month/year)	Priority C	laimed?
P11-355902	Japan	15/12/1999	⊠Yes	□No
			□Yes	□No
			□Yes	□No

We hereby claim benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:





We hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States application(s), or § 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application.

Application Serial No.	Filing Date	Status i		
		□Patented	□Pending	□Abandoned
		□Patented	□Pending	□Abandoned

We hereby appoint the following attorneys and agents to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Mani Adeli (Reg No. 39,585) Erwin J. Basinski (Reg No. 34,773) Paula A. Borden (Reg No. 42,344) Barry E. Bretschneider (Reg No. 28,055) Alan W. Cannon (Reg No. 34,977) Robert K. Cerpa (Reg No. 39,933) Niki D. Cox (Reg No. 42,446) E. Victor Donahue (Reg No. 35,492) Sean M. Fitzgerald (Reg No. 42,537) Hector Gallegos (Reg No. 40,614) Charles D. Holland (Reg No. 35,196) Richard D. Jordan (Reg No. 33,519) Ararat Kapouytian (Reg No. 40,044) Antoinette F. Konski (Reg No. 34,202) Susan K. Lehnhardt (Reg No. 33,943) Shmuel Livnat (Reg No. 33,949) Harry J. Macey (Reg No. 32,818) Gladys H. Monroy (Reg No. 32,430) Dahna S. Pasternak (Reg No. 41,411) William C. Revelos (Reg No. 42,101) J. Michael Schiff (Reg No. 40,253) Lee K. Tan (Reg No. 39,447) Thomas G. Wiseman (Reg No. 35,046) Frank Wu (Reg No. 41,386) Paul J. Riley (Reg. No. 38,596 Please direct all communications to:

Sanjay Bagade (Reg No. 42,280) Frank P. Becking (Reg No. 42,309) Sean Brennan (Reg No. 39,917) Nicholas Buffinger (Reg No. 39,124) Mark R. Carter (Reg No. 39,131) Thomas E. Ciotti (Reg No. 21,013) Raj S. Davé (Reg No. 42,465) Stephen C. Durant (Reg No. 31,506) Cheryl L. Franke (Reg No. P-44,113) Douglas Hodder (Reg No. 41,840) Madeline I. Johnston (Reg No. 36,174) Cindy S. Kaplan (Reg No. 40,043) Phanesh B. Koneru (Reg No. 40,053) Jung-Hua Kuo (Reg No. 41,918) Wen Liu (Reg No. 32,822) David C. Lundmark (Reg No. 42,815) Thomas D. Mays (Reg No. 34,524) Kate H. Murashige (Reg No. 29,959) Catherine M. Polizzi (Reg No. 40,130) Robert Saltzberg (Reg No. 36,910) Debra A. Shetka (Reg No. 33,309) E. Thomas Wheelock (Reg No. 28,825) Karen K. Wong (Reg No. P-44,409) Richard Lilley (Reg. No. 42,803)







Barry E. Bretschneider Morrison & Foerster LLP 2000 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006-1888

Please direct all telephone calls to Barry E. Bretschneider at (202) 887-1545.

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under § 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Nov. 30, 2000	Hirosh' Hatano	
Date	Name: Hiroshi HATANO	_
	Residence: Takatsuki-Shi, Osaka, Citizenship: Japanese	Japan ·
		Osaka Kokusai Building, 3-13, 2-chom Osaka-shi, Osaka 541-8556 Japan
Date	Name: Residence:	_
•	Citizenship:	
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